



# DIOCESE OF ALLAHABAD

Bishop's House, #32 Thornhill Road  
Allahabad 211 002, INDIA

DIOCESAN CIRCULAR NO. 06/14

November 13, 2014



## MY PROGRAMME

### November 2014

2	Celebrates Holy Mass at Rajapur Cemetery
8	Presides over Golden Jubilee Celebration of Bethany School, Naini
9	Presides over Regional Bible Festival at Nav-Sadhana, Varanasi
13-14	Journey to Pune
16	Administers Confirmation at St. Joseph's Cathedral, Alld
17	Presides over Diamond Jubilee Celebration of Fatima Convent School Kanpur at 5:30 p.m.
18-21	Participates at Regional Bishops and Major Superiors Meeting at Nav-Sadhana, Varanasi
21	Mass at St. Mary's Convent and Prize Distribution at St. Joseph's College, Alld
22	Presides over Golden Jubilee Celebration of Sacred Heart School, Obra

### My dear Fathers, Sisters and Brothers,

Grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

#### I. Advent: A Season of Hope

In the suicide bombing that took place near Wagha border on November 2, 2014, 61 people, including 10 women, 8 children and 3 security men, lost their lives.

The Times of India of November 12, 2014 reported about one of the worst medical tragedies of Chhattisgarh State. Botched sterilization killed 10 women and put the lives of 40 others in great danger.

Such horrible incidents happening at alarming frequency can cast a pall of gloom over us all. Yet it is precisely at such times that we need to light the advent candle of hope. In the days of apartheid in South Africa, Christians there used to light candles and place them on windows as a sign to themselves and to others that they believed that someday this injustice would end. A candle burning on a window was a sign of hope.

Let us hope, because the Lord says through Prophet Ezekiel: "The lost I will seek out, the strayed I will bring back, the injured I will bind up, the sick I will heal." There shall be peace and joy among the followers of Christ. The Kingdom of God is amongst us- in our midst. This is what we believe. God is with us. God is always there for us, and God is always ready to help us.

Psalm 31:24 says: "Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all you that hope in the Lord."

Regarding hope Robert Speight writes: "We inherit from our miraculous past the theological virtue of

23	Presides over Corpus Christi Celebrations at St. Joseph's Cathedral, Alld
24	Presides over School Day Function at Canossa School, Faizabad
26	Presides over P.T Display at St. Mary's Inter College, Mirzapur
28	Presides over School Day Function at Mariampur
29	Presides over S.F.X . School Day Function,Kanpur 6.00 p.m.

#### December 2014

3	Episcopal Anniversary Day Celebration at Kanpur 5:30 p.m.
5	Journey to Varanasi
7	Pastoral Visit to S.F.X. Church, Robertsganj & Presides over Nazareth Hospital Day Celebration at 6:00. p.m. Alld
11	Presides over Golden Jubilee Celebration at St. Joseph's School, Chakeri
13	Presides over School Day Function, Anpara
14	Presides over School Day Function, Shaktinagar
16-17	Christmas Recollection for Clergy
20	Presides over School Day Function at Akbarpur

hope. Hope is always humble and frequently disappointed. Hope is not the house. Hope is not even the hands that build the house. Hope is the hands that shape the rubble into some sort of a shelter for the night when the house is ruined. It cannot be separated from its theological sisters 'Faith and Love'. But it is not to be confused with optimism, which is a conceited and secular cousin inherited like a passing bout of influenza from the ease and pride of life. The true basis of our hope is God."

Father Ronald Rolheizer expresses this beautifully in the following passage: "We hope not on the basis of a worsening or improving evening news cast. But because the deepest reality of all is that God exists; that the centre holds, that there is ultimately a gracious Lord who rules this universe. And that this Lord is powerful enough to re-arrange the atoms of the planet and raise dead bodies to new life. We light candles of hope because God, who is more real than anything else, has promised to establish a kingdom of love and peace on this earth; and he is gracious, forgiving and powerful enough to do it."

May this season of Advent deepen your spirit of prayer, strengthen your hope and increase your joy.

#### II. Corpus Christi Procession

We need to plan well the annual Corpus Christi procession so that it becomes a manifestation of our faith, and an expression of the unity in faith. What does it mean, this public display of the Church's most intimate Sacrament? It means nothing less than the redemption of the world. Christ came not to condemn the world but to save it (John 12:47). The essence of our faith is that God became one of us, to walk among us. In the Blessed Sacrament God walks, in a very literal way, among his people.

A Corpus Christi procession demonstrates two things: firstly that we believe that Our Lord is truly present under the form of bread, and secondly that he came to save all mankind, to call those outside the church to happiness. Our faith is not something to be hidden behind closed doors, nor whispered in secret, but “proclaimed on the housetops” (Matt. 10:27).

### III. Membership of Pastoral Council of the Diocese of Allahabad. (PCDA)

The process of forming the Pastoral Council of the Diocese of Allahabad is on. Fr. Leo Sequeira, who has been appointed the secretary of PCDA, has already received the names of lay representatives. He is yet to receive the names of religious men and women representatives.

May I request Provincials/Regional Superiors/ Mission Superiors residing in the diocese to send the names of their representatives according to the list given here under.

#### i. Religious :

- a) Major Superiors having their office in the Diocese.
- b) Religious formators: Sisters/Brothers/Fathers-in-charges of Candidates, Postulants and Novices.
- c) Presidents of the Diocesan and Regional Units of CRI.
- d) Representative of the following congregation :
 

UMI	: 5	CJ	: 4	FDCC	: 3
CSN	: 2	UFS	: 2	BS	: 2
MC	: 2	AC	: 1	DSH	: 2
DSA	: 1	FMM	: 1	OSF	: 1
SHM	: 1	SRA	: 1	DSJ	: 1
CSS	: 1				
CMSF	: 1	SSP	: 1	IMS	: 2
SABS	: 1	SJ	: 1	CST	: 1
- e) Any other religious the Bishop may choose to nominate.

#### ii. Laity :

- a) The lay representatives will be chosen on the Regional basis  
 Allahabad Region: 12; Kanpur Region : 12;  
 Sultanpur Region: 10; and Mirzapur- Sonbhadra Region: 10.
- b) Youth President from the four Regions.
- c) Any lay women and men the Bishop may choose to nominate.

#### iii. Priests :

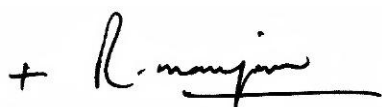
- a) Members of the priests' Council and the College of Consultors
- b) The Directors of Various Ministries.

- c) The Vicar General and the Chancellor
- d) The Diocesan Procurator
- e) Any other priests the Bishop may choose to nominate
- f) The Diocesan Bishop – President.

#### **IV. Gratitude**

Belatedly though, I would like to express my deep gratitude to each one of you for your prayers, greetings and presence on the occasion of my Feast day celebrations.

I take this opportunity also to thank all those Parish Priests, Superiors of Religious Houses and Principals of Schools and Colleges who responded generously to my appeal for contribution towards relief and rehabilitation of Victims of flood in Jammu and Kashmir. I have a special word of appreciation for St. Mary's College 32, whose contribution was the highest by any institution in our diocese.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Manjaly', with a small cross symbol to its left.

**MOST REV. RAPHY MANJALY**  
Bishop of Allahabad